

**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
\$250,000 EMERGENCY ACTION MEMORANDUM**

**Date:** July 20, 2012

**Subject:** Stony Hill Road TCE  
Wake Forest, Wake County, North Carolina

**From:** Kenneth Rhame  
Federal On-Scene Coordinator, (FOSC)  
Emergency Response and Removal Branch (ERRB)

**To:** Regional Emergency Operations Center, 4WD-ERRB  
Shane Hitchcock, ERRB  
James Webster, ERRB  
North Carolina NCDENR  
Site File

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this memorandum is to document the decision to initiate emergency response actions described herein for the Stony Hill Road TCE Site (the Site) located in Wake Forest, Wake County, North Carolina under the FOSC's \$250,000 delegated authority.

**II. SITE CONDITIONS AND BACKGROUND**

**Site Number:** B4S8  
**TO Amount:** \$200,000  
**TO Number:**  
**Contractor:** Environmental Restoration  
**CERCLIS Number:** N/A  
**Response Authority:** CERCLA  
**State Notification:** July 10, 2012  
**Start Date:** July 11, 2012  
**Completion Date:** TBD  
**Demobilization Date:** TBD  
**NPL Status:** Non-NPL  
**Incident Category:**

- ☐ Active Production Facility
- ☐ Inactive Production Facility
- ☐ Active Waste Management Facility
- ☐ Inactive Waste Management Facility
- ☐ Midnight Dump
- ☐ Transportation Related
- ☒ Other (specify) Residential wells contaminated with trichloroethylene and

tetrachloroethylene.

**A. Site Description**

**1. Removal Site Evaluation**

The Environmental Protection Agency received a request from the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR) Inactive Hazardous Sites Branch (IHSB) to provide bottled water to a residence with elevated levels of trichloroethylene (TCE) and conduct potable well sampling in order to determine if any additional exposure has occurred. In August 2005 a tenant at 7305 Stony Hill Road contacted Wake County with a complaint of a petroleum odor in their water. Wake County sampled the well and detected TCE. Wake County notified NCDENR Division of Water Quality Aquifer Protection Section (APS) of the contamination. APS confirmed Wake County's result and sampled 7303 and 7312 Stony Hill Road, which were both determined to be clean. The residents at 7305 and 7309 Stony Hill Road were connected to the clean well at 7303 Stony Hill Road to mitigate exposures occurring from the contaminated well. APS performed an investigation which identified a drainpipe at the cinder block shed located at 7303 Stony Hill Road to be the likely source of the contamination. A Notice of Corrective Action was issued to the owner of the property at 7303 Stony Hill Road. The Site was transferred to IHSB in 2007. IHSB sampled properties located at 7303, 7305 and 7333 Stony Hill Road in June 2012. Trichloroethylene was detected at 22 parts- per-billion (ppb) at 7333 Stony Hill Road, prompting IHSB to refer the Site to the EPA ERRB on July 10, 2012.

Based on the results at 7333 Stony Hill Road at 22 ppb, which is above the EPA's Removal Management Level (RML) of 8 ppb and Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 5 ppb, the EPA mobilized to the Site on July 11, 2012, to deliver bottled water to the resident at 7333 Stony Hill Road and to obtain access agreements to sample properties in the surrounding area. On July 12, 2012, the EPA sampled seven wells along both sides of Stony Hill Road. On July 13, 2012, the EPA received preliminary sample results indicating that wells on three properties, and a total of four homes (the property located at 7317 Stony Hill Road has two residences) are contaminated with TCE above the RML. Bottled water was delivered to these properties on July 13, 2012, as soon as the results were received. The properties were put on a water delivery service on July 16, 2012, until a permanent solution can be implemented. The properties with contamination exceeding MCL are as follows:

Address	TCE	PCE*
7317 Stony Hill Rd	67	41
7327 Stony Hill Rd	47	110
7333 Stony Hill Rd	19	13

\*Tetrachloroethylene



On July 16, 2012, the EPA returned to the Site to obtain additional access agreements to expand the sampling area. From July 16 through July 18, 2012 the EPA continued to obtain access agreements from residents in the area. On July 19, 2012, a second round of samples was collected from 11 residences in the area. Of the 11 wells sampled, one well was contaminated above the MCL. Sample results were received on July 20, 2012. The well located at 1009 Stony Hill Road contained TCE at 7.7 ppb. Bottled water was delivered to the resident immediately upon receipt of the preliminary sample results on July 20, 2012.

## **2. Physical location and Site Characteristics**

The Site is located in the area surrounding 7333 Stony Hill Road in Wake Forest, Wake County, North Carolina. The geographic coordinates for this location are Latitude: 35° 59' 20.462" N, Longitude: -78° 36' 29.383" W. The site consists of several single family residences located in a residential area. As TCE plumes are in the area and are likely to move with groundwater flow, the Site may expand as more contaminated wells are discovered.

## **3. Release or threatened release into the environment of a hazardous substance, or pollutant or contaminant**

TCE and PCE are hazardous substances as defined by Section 101(14) of CERCLA and have been detected in potable residential wells in the area exceeding the Removal Management Levels (RML).

## **4. NPL Status**

This Site is not on the National Priorities List (NPL).

## **5. Maps, pictures, and other graphic representations**

Maps, pictures, and other graphic representations can be found in the Site file.

# **B. Other actions to Date**

## **1. Previous Actions**

No previous actions have been performed by the EPA.

## **2. Current Actions**

The EPA mobilized to the Site on July 11, 2012, to deliver bottled water and collect access agreements for well sampling. On July 12, 2012, the EPA sampled seven residences in the area. On July 13, 2012, the EPA received preliminary sample results and delivered bottled water to three residences with elevated concentrations of TCE and PCE. From July 16 through 18, 2012, the EPA collected additional access agreements for sampling. On July 19, 2012, 11 residential wells were sampled and on July 20, 2012, sample results were received. Bottled water was delivered to one residence on July 20,

2012, that exceeded the MCL for TCE.

### **C. State and Local Actions to Date**

#### **1. State and Local Actions to Date**

In August 2005, a tenant at 7305 Stony Hill Road contacted Wake County with a complaint of a petroleum odor in the water. Wake County sampled the well and detected TCE. Wake County notified NCDENR Division of Water Quality Aquifer Protection Section (APS) of the contamination. APS confirmed Wake County's result and sampled drinking water at 7303 and 7312 Stony Hill Road, and both determined to be clean. Residences at 7305 and 7309 Stony Hill Road were connected to the clean well at 7303 Stony Hill Road to mitigate exposures occurring on those properties. APS performed an investigation which identified a drainpipe at a cinder block shed located at 7303 Stony Hill Road to be the likely source of the contamination. A Notice of Corrective Action was issued to the owner of the property at 7303 Stony Hill Road. The Site was transferred to IHSB in 2007. IHSB sampled properties located at 7303, 7305 and 7333 Stony Hill Road in June 2012. TCE was detected at 22 ppb at 7333 Stony Hill Road, prompting IHSB to refer the Site to the EPA ERRB on July 10, 2012.

#### **2. Potential for Continued State and Local Response**

State and local agencies have indicated that their funding is insufficient to conduct the necessary response actions to mitigate exposure. The State may conduct additional investigations to identify a Potentially Responsible Party.

### **III THREATS TO PUBLIC HEALTH OR WELFARE OR THE ENVIRONMENT, AND STATUTORY AND REGULATORY AUTHORITIES**

Section 300.415 of the National Contingency Plan (NCP) lists a number of factors to be evaluated in determining the appropriateness of a removal action. The following paragraphs apply to the Stony Hill Road TCE Site:

**§300.415(b)(2)(i). "Actual or potential exposure to nearby human populations, animals, or the food chain from hazardous substances or pollutants or contaminants."**

Samples collected at 7317, 7327 and 7333 Stony Hill Road exceed the RML for TCE of 8 ppb. The sample collected at 7327 also exceeds the RML for PCE of 100 ppb. The sample collected at 1009 High Trail Court exceeds the MCL for TCE of 5 ppb. Several other samples collected contained various trace amounts of TCE, PCE, 1, 1-dichloroethylene (1,1-DCE), 1,1,1-TCE, 1,2-DCE and cis-1,2-DCE.



**§300.415(b)(2)(vii). “The availability of other appropriate Federal or State response mechanisms to respond to the release.”**

At this time, there exist no additional State mechanisms able to respond to this incident in the required manner.

**IV. PLANNED REMOVAL ACTIVITIES**

Anticipated immediate removal activities for the Site include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Installation and maintenance (Includes Operation and Maintenance) of Point-of-Entry (POE) Carbon Filtration Systems at residents that have drinking water wells with contaminants above health risk thresholds as determined by OSC.
- The extension of a water line from the nearby community water system operated by AquaAmerica, a private water provider.
- Additional sampling and analysis of residential wells for TCE and associated hazardous substances.

**V. BUDGET**

The total Site ceiling for this emergency action is \$250,000. The budget has been structured as appears below. Changes in the structure may be made by the OSC at his discretion.

Extramural Funds	Ceiling (\$)
ERRS	170,000
START	30,000
Contingency	<u>50,000</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>250,000<sup>1</sup></b>

**VI. APPROVAL**

This decision document represents the selected removal action for this Site, developed in accordance with CERCLA as amended, and not inconsistent with the NCP. Conditions at the Site meet the NCP Section 300.415(b) criteria for a removal action and through this document, I am approving the proposed removal actions. The total project ceiling is \$250,000, this amount will be funded from the Regional removal allowance.

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<sup>1</sup> EPA direct and indirect costs, although cost recoverable, do not count toward the Removal Ceiling for this removal action. Liable parties may be held financially responsible for costs incurred by the EPA as set forth in Section 107 of CERCLA.

*Kenneth B. Rhame*

Kenneth Rhame, FOSC  
Emergency Response and Removal Branch  
U.S. EPA Region 4

7/20/2012

Date